WRL News

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SSD Rebound:
Hiroshima-Nagasaki Actions Blossom Around Country

The June disarmament demonstrations appear to have provided considerable momentum into local activities around August 6 through 9.

In hundreds of communities there were commemorative services, vigils, rallies, nonviolent blockades, die-ins, blood throwings, film showings, candlelight processions, conferences, leafletting, paper crane foldings, cultural events, marches, church bell ringings, and other demonstrations.

Basically, these events sought to remember what happened in Japan 37 years ago and to speak out against the nuclear arms race. Some of the actions focused on specific components of the nuclear war machine—including events at the Pentagon, Pantex plant near Amarillo (final assembly for all US nuclear weapons), Lexington, Kentucky (the corporate headquarters for the owners of Pantex), Bangor (the Trident submarine base in Washington State), Offut AFB (headquarters of the Strategic Air Command, near Omaha), Riverside Research Institute (nuclear war think tank in Manhattan), Pfizer (manufacturer of a graphite ring for the Trident missile, near Easton, PA), Rockwell (B-1 bomber manufacturer, in Pittsburgh), Bendix (manufacturer of electrical components for nuclear weapons, Kansas City), Wright-Patterson AFB (near Dayton, OH), Seymour Johnson AFB (TAC base near Goldsboro, NC), Robins AFB (near Warner Robbins, GA), Rock Island Arsenal (near Davenport, IA), Piketon (uranium enrichment plant in Ohio), among others.

As we go to press, we cannot pretend to report all that has happened. What follows are accounts of some of the more dramatic events around Hiroshima (August 6) and Nagasaki (August 9) days.

New York City—
Riverside Research Institute

A total of 124 arrests were made on August 6 and 9 of people blocking the entrance to Riverside Research Institute (RRI). RRI is the primary designer of nuclear weapons systems in New York City (e.g., guidance for the MX missile).

by Ed Hedemann

The Hiroshima Day action began with an early morning gathering of about 150 people at Bryant Park. After a moment of silence at 8:15 a.m. (when Hiroshima was bombed) and a few songs, demonstrators marched in five different routes to RRI. The blockaders were "greeted" by 200 police and a sea of barricades. Two of the demonstrators managed to slip by the police and block the reception area of RRI for 10 minutes before being hauled out. In all, 64 were arrested Hiroshima Day, most being carted off on stretchers because they were limp. Ten refused to give their name or address, but were eventually released at midnight, essentially with all charges dropped despite their continued non-cooperation.

On Nagasaki Day, the scenario was approximately the same. Five of the 60 who were arrested that day slipped by police "control points" to again directly block the RRI reception area. An intense downpour just as the blockade began left virtually all the demonstrators soaked to the skin.

Local electronic and print media coverage was excellent, creating some public exposure for this almost unknown nuclear war think tank. An ad hoc coalition of groups including the War Resisters League, Kairos Community, and the Mobilization for Survival quickly pulled together this action after the June disarmament activities were over.

Other Manhattan activities included an imaginative "Shadow Project," coordi-

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Blockading the Riverside Research Institute in New York City on Hiroshima Day.
Photo by Grace Hedemann.

Thinking About Lebanon—Incredibly

by Claire E. Gorfinkel

Did you believe it when, after the invasion of Lebanon, Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin assured President Reagan "we do not covet one inch of Lebanese territory?" Ostensibly provoked by the assassination attempt, the invasion was in fact long planned and executed with precision.

Sure, you could believe the Israeli Prime Minister, so skilled at understatement and "fait accompli." What he wanted was not a square inch of Lebanon, but a whole new national dynamic. (Still, the siege of Beirut raises fears of another Israeli occupation.) If with a new deck of cards one could create a new game, the Israelis could be said to have thrown the whole deck up in the air. They have already fundamentally altered the (formerly precarious) status quo, and we haven't yet seen where the new cards will fall.

Who are the players in this awesome multinational card game, and what can they hope to win? The Israelis, with the invasion issued both the invitation and the rules. They seek a secure state and we affirm their right to it, as we acknowledge that history has denied their sense of security. But we utterly reject their military methods—just as we reject tossing the cards in the air to change the game.

Though there are many other players, the Palestinians are the true opponents. Stateless, divided, left out of the Camp David process, and unable to achieve political recognition through conventional channels, since 1948 they have been the key to peace in the Middle East. Perhaps they have something to gain from this conflict: if for their withdrawal from Lebanon they achieve American recognition and the opportunity to participate in future negotiations, it will be no small step.

Lebanon is the table, covered with ashes, where the game is played, the mess left to be cleared when it is over. Since its founding, Lebanon has been ungovernable, an artificial nation. The Palestinian presence has heightened the contradictions. There are Lebanese who oppose the Palestinian presence. Some aided the invasion, while other Lebanese oppose Israel. These are fundamental differences, manifested in family clans, personal armies, political perspectives and power. The media lumped them into categories of "Christian" and "Moslem" for our limited understanding of the still unresolved civil war. Perhaps without the Palestinians, Lebanon may become governable. The odds are stacked heavily against it.

The United States is brokering at least one of the players. Generations of military assistance led to Israeli military superiority in the region. By failing to prevent, much less stop the invasion, the US must bear some of the blame for the needless slaughter.

This is a war, not a card game.

Civilian dead, wounded, and homeless, number in the hundreds of thousands. Hospitals are jammed. While the US Congress debates the fine points of weapons sales, Israel justifies using cluster bombs for "defensive" purposes. A lesson from Vietnam is relearned: it takes more medical personnel to care for cluster bomb victims than conventional injuries. Thus they destroy the society's infrastructure as well as their direct victims. This is a war of wills, a war of tanks and missiles, cease-fires and broken ceasefires, death by gunfire for some, by starvation for others.

Two factors restrain the Israelis from militarily destroying the Palestinians. Worldwide popular opinion, including articulate voices within Israel, oppose an invasion of Beirut and the inevitable destruction of civilian life. Equally significant is the possibility of Israeli defeat, by the Palestinians fighting on familiar territory.

But will this war lead to security? Although the PLO has agreed to relocate, the ultimate irony is that no country appears willing to have them. It calls to mind classic liberal racism: "I'm all for letting them into the University, but not my neighborhood."

The Palestinians were without weapons in 1948, when war first dispersed them. They built a political structure, hospitals, schools, research facilities and more than one army. Across international boundaries they have maintained their solidarity which repression has only intensified.

Security for the region can only come about in peaceful relations among neighbors and a resolution on the West Bank and Gaza that includes Palestinian self-determination. Why does a nation that prides itself on a collective memory going back 5000 years think they can make the Palestinians disappear?

The analogy with the card game seems crazy: the whole war seems crazy. Yet we must try to make sense of it and search for an appropriate response.

Around the world small groups of Jews are gathering to express simultaneously their support for Israel and their opposition to the invasion of Lebanon. As individuals and organizations, Jew and non-Jew, we can do no less. We can affirm the Palestinians' right to self-determination in a secure state of their own. We can oppose Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza as destructive both of Israeli integrity and Palestinians freedom.

Other demands might include: an end to all arms sales; US recognition of and direct negotiations with the PLO; Arab-Israeli-Palestinian negotiations leading to the creation of an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank and in Gaza; withdrawal of all foreign armed forces from Lebanon. Finally, we can support efforts to rebuild war-torn Lebanon and to establish a viable democracy there.

The deadly card game continued. The stakes are steadily rising and the smoke is getting thicker. There's a lot of bluffing, and no one knows who holds the winning hand.

Claire Gorfinkel, a member of WRL/West and former Director of the Middle East Mobile Education Project, is now living in Virginia.

1983 WRL Calendar Available

There Is No Way to Peace, Peace Is the Way may prove to be one of the most useful WRL Calendars in the 29 years WRL has produced them. The 1983 Calendar is the movement version of Bartlett's quotations. It contains 267 famous (and some not so famous) quotations on war, peace, and social justice.

This desk Calendar (5½" x 8½") has a page for every week facing a page of quotations. The date pages can be removed, leaving a bound volume for your permanent library. This handsome and informative Calendar is ideal as an inexpensive gift. Order today!

WRL Statement of Purpose

The War Resisters League affirms that war is a crime against humanity. We therefore are determined not to support any kind of war, international or civil, and to strive nonviolently for the removal of all the causes of war.

I support this statement and wish to enroll as a member of the War Resisters League.

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip ____

Send to **War Resisters League**
339 Lafayette Street
New York, NY 10012

SSDII: What Went Wrong?

by Sheila Oakes

That the United Nations Second Special Session on Disarmament failed is not surprising. What was surprising was the virtually total failure. I believe that the diplomats involved were as appalled as we were.

I had come to New York to lobby during the session, and the best that I thought could reasonably be achieved were some fairly immediate very small steps: an outline Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament with the initial stage in some detail, and the setting up of a number of expert groups and studies to start to tackle such issues as security (What is it? Secure from whom or what?) and the avoidance of recourse to military conflict to 'solve' problems.

First let me say something about the workings of the UN and to describe how the SSD II was organized. The only decisions of the UN which are binding are those taken by the Security Council (which has virtually no machinery for enforcement). All others, which are taken by the General Assembly (and SSD II was a special session of the General Assembly), are advisory. They are agreements as to what *ought* to be done. Considering this, the achievements of the United Nations, as an entity, are surprisingly creditable.*

SSD II was organized in exactly the same way as other UN conferences. A plenary session, followed by the drafting of the final document of the conference—which is when the negotiations take place. At SSD II the plenary session lasted two and a half weeks. Each state taking part made a statement, usually lasting between 35 and 50 minutes and there were statements by the directors of some of the UN Agencies as well. When discussion was to take place the General Assembly became the Ad-Hoc Committee of the Whole.

The second Working Group was to evaluate progress since the first SSD in 1978 and to discuss what action should be taken on the various special studies that had been produced (Nuclear Weapons, Disarmament and Development and a number of others). And the third Working Group was to deal with the implementation of the Second Disarmament Decade, the mobilization of world public opinion, and all new proposals made at SSD II.

Working Group I immediately divided itself into four drafting groups, and later Working Group II set up two drafting groups and then Working Group III had to divide because of the wide diversity of issues covered. This process of division would mean that only the countries with very large delegations could attend all the meetings, so only 3 or 4 meetings were scheduled at the same time. This meant that there was less time for each group or sub-group and that diplomats were running from one meeting to another, and some meetings were scheduled until very late at night. These conditions are hardly conducive to any negotiations, much less to a subject like disarmament.

The meetings of the working and drafting groups were closed, which made lobbying very difficult, as one did not know which country, much less which diplomat, was involved, and as diplomats are the only people in the UN who do not wear ID cards. Security was very tight during the first three weeks, which meant that access to the diplomats was always very difficult and usually impossible. (For President Reagan's speech the Security was so fierce that access to the galleries for accredited NGOs [Non-Governmental Organizations] was stopoped, until somebody at the last minute realized that the galleries would be empty and made an emergency distribution of tickets.)

Three days before the end, the diplomats admitted failure.

While the picture is bleak it is not all dark. The non-aligned group led by the Indians, pointed out they should be involved in negotiations concerning nuclear weapons, because they were threatened by them. The West German Ambassador said publicly that the NATO states would have to pay attention to this. More than half the states who took part in SSD II are not members of the Committee on Disarmament. Their involvement means more pressure for disarmament. The Final Document of the first SSD was endorsed. There were considerable fears at the beginning that this document might be watered down.

We have a UN World Disarmament Campaign. This will enable the UN Centre for Disarmament to put out materials and to take a more positive educational line on the issue. It will be important that we encourage and make use of this campaign, and that it is aimed at both governments and peoples.

What went wrong? The main thing was that the position of the US and Soviet blocs were so far apart that agreement was virtually impossible. The set up of the session meant that although it lasted for 5 weeks it did not even have 10 days (because of scheduling) in which to do its work. In simple terms the problem was always the "other side"—they are not flexible or they should take the first step.

Part of this problem is that the word disarmament means either that you are dis-

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Myrtle Solomon, War Resisters International chairwoman, addressing the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament.

**For example in all fields except disarmament the UN has been extraordinarily successful: establishment of development aid and food aid, elimination of smallpox, and reduction of many other diseases, among alot of other accomplishments.*

Sheila Oakes is General Secretary of the British National Peace Council.

Draft Update

Demonstration in New York City the day after the first indictment of a non-registrant.
Photo by David McReynolds.

by Grace Hedemann

At this time five young men have been indicted for not registering for the draft (Ben Sasway, Enten Eller, David Wayte, Mark Schmucker and Russell Ford). Pretrial motions and trials begin the third week of August. More non-registrants will be indicted in the months to come.

Yet, Reagan Administration officials admit that at least 675,000 young men have failed to register since 1980. Richard Halloran in "Lag in Draft Registrations Raises Doubt That Law Can Be Enforced" (July 28, 1982 *New York Times*) writes, "The total...is now so large that it raises new questions about whether the draft registration law can be enforced. The number of men who could be convicted of failing to register is more than 20 times greater than the entire population of Federal prisons."

WRL locals organized day after indictment demonstrations on July 1, 2, and 3 following Ben Sasway's indictment in San Diego, California on June 30. **Monmouth County WRL** issued a press statement published in both local newspapers and held a demonstration on July 1 which received excellent media coverage. Forty people picketed the FBI offices including parents of draft age sons, and even a Congressional candidate. **Pittsburgh WRL** organized a quick press conference on July 1 and had a presence at the Federal Building on July 2. They received good coverage from several radio stations. **Pocatello WRL** received excellent coverage on their news release supporting Ben Sasway. Carolyn Fulton, a WRL member and mother of a son, said, "I see no reason why young men should sign away their lives to fight wars begun by politicians to preserve profits for the wealthy." The press release mentioned where young men locally could receive counseling. **Evansville WRL** held a news conference on July 1 and a demonstration on July 3 at a A-10A military jet display in a local shopping center. Evansville WRL's leaflet said, "We protest the killing in Lebanon. We protest the killing in Guatamala. We protest the killing in El Salvador. We support men who refuse to be a part of these deaths." **Oak Park WRL** participated in a coalition demonstration on July 2 in Chicago. **WRL/West** organized and participated in a coalition press conference and demonstration held over a three-day period before and following Ben's indictment.

Larry Gara, WRL National Committee member, received a letter from his local U.S. Attorney giving him until July 8 to register or face possible prosecution, Larry spent three years in prison forty years ago for not registering. He wanted to identify with the current generation of resisters and therefore, decided to write Selective Service about his intention not to register on ethical, philosophical, humanitarian and religious grounds. Larry later informed Selective Service about his age, and still later wrote another letter about his refusal to register. The upshot is, Selective Service is thoroughly confused, and the *Dayton Journal* did a story about Larry's position.

The Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors reports that the recent court ruling on "Wolman" requires registrants to give their social security number at registration. The ACLU lost the case and does not plan to continue pursuing it. However, if a registrant did not include their social security number at the time of registration because the Wolman case had been pending, they are not required by law now to do so. Selective Service in the meantime has been identifying non-registrants from matching appropriate age group selective service numbers with registrants. One flaw in the system is a current address, that is where the Internal Revenue Service comes-in. There are also checks with the Defense Department and the Department of Transportation for those currently in the military or Coast Guard. One or two warning letters will be sent to non-registrants and then names will be turned over to the Justice Department which will decide to prosecute or not.

Legislation is pending on denying educational benefits to non-registrants. Bills have been passed in the Senate and the House of Representatives. However, the language of the bills and the date for implementation must be reconciled in committee. It is expected the bill will be passed in October, and be effective immediately. Yet, realistically, the law would not effect students until the spring term since regulations and procedures must be outlined and approved.

The House version of the bill makes colleges and universities responsible for enforcement of the law by requiring proof of registration with a financial request. Educational institutions will not want to be the enforcer for the Federal Government, but are dependent on students receiving financial assistance. Students should pressure their institutions not to comply (if this provision is passed) on the basis of discrimination against low and middle income students who are dependent on loans and scholarships as well as education being the primarily function of the school, not enforcement of Federal Law.

WRL Regional Conference October 29-31, 1982

WRL will hold its east coast regional conference at Hudson Guild Farm in Andover, New Jersey. Before there were national conferences, WRL held its conferences at Hudson Guild.

This is a great opportunity to meet other WRL members and enjoy a weekend in the country. The cost is $60 (lower for children). For more information, contact the WRL national office.

Grace Hedemann is a member of the WRL national staff.

WRI TRIENNIAL REPORT

by David McReynolds

It would be tempting to turn this report into a tribute to Perugia, the university town just North of Rome where the War Resisters' International held its 17th Triennial. Perugia is an old city, already settled and well built up before the first Europeans landed in the Americas. Set on a hill—I assume for military security—it is constructed of massive walls and great stones. And because it is built on a hill one has the impression that "wherever you want to go is up." It is run by the Italian Communist Party (CPI), which has a large office in the main plaza. (My hunch is that few Americans visiting Perugia realize the police, sanitation, etc., is all under Communist control.)

Coming from a land so new as ours, where the native culture was scraped away by Europeans and whole cities built up where forests had been, it is odd to walk the streets of a city knowing people had walked the same streets four hundred years earlier; to touch the stones of high walls that had been set in place before the Pilgrims landed.

If Rome has about it the sense of the past colliding with the present, as when an ancient Roman wall runs directly up to the modern train station, pausing as if to contemplate how to speed the decay of the station, it is true that in Rome ruins are precisely that—ruins. What makes Perugia so fascinating is that despite its age, it is not a ruin. And despite the infestation of tourists (including us), it is a living city with very modern construction on the outskirts of the old city.

War Resisters' International was founded in 1923 and every three years it has its Triennial or international congress. Part of the five days are open to participation by anyone who comes, and part of the sessions are business meetings with delegated voting. Of the 18 Americans present, 5 were voting delegates. The international pacifist movement consists of two internationals, WRI which is primarily secular, and the IFoR (International Fellowship of Reconciliation), which is primarily Christian. In my own view the ideological differences between the internationals are less significant today than the areas of agreement and I hope there can be steady, gradual work to pull the two into a single international.

War Resisters' International has sections in more than twenty countries. In the United States the War Resisters League is the main section, although the Fellowship of Reconciliation has a nominal affiliation (its main work is with IFoR). The Movement for a New Society and the Resource Center for Nonviolence also maintains affiliations to WRI. This Triennial saw nearly 200 registered delegates, of which five were members of WRL staff. (These included Ralph DiGia, Karl Bissinger, Susan Pines, Igal Roodenko and myself.)

The Chair of WRI is elected by mail ballot before the Triennial, and Myrtle Solomon won re-election by a clear margin over Gerd Greune. Myrtle had done an almost inhuman and certainly terribly punishing job holding WRI together for the past difficult period, including moving the office from Brussels to London. That she was willing to run again is a tribute to her absolute commitment.

The Council, which governs the work of the WRI between Triennials, meets once a year for a week of hard work and consultations. It is elected by vote of the delegates at the Triennial. Those elected this year are, in order of election, Ellen Elster (Norway), Peter Jones (England), Helga Weber (West Germany), Craig Simpson (U.S.A.), Pietro Pinna (Italy), Reinoud Doeshot (Netherlands), Devi Prasad (India), Michael Randle (England), Bernadette Ridard (France), Bjorn Lindgren (Sweden), Jean Van Lierde (Belgium), Ulf Norenius (Sweden), Joanne Sheehan (U.S.A.). In addition, every section has the right to designate a full member of Council—WRL's representative is Dorie Wilsnack, who was present and very active and responsible. I had served as an elected member of the International Council since 1966 but declined nomination this time in order to make possible some rotation of leadership.

I regret the fact Paul Brinkman of the DFG/VK—the main West Germany section—failed by a few votes to be elected. He would have been a useful link between the International and the largest of the West German sections. (There are political tensions between most of the member sections and the DFG/VK because of differing approaches to the Soviet Bloc.) The Council—and the delegates—reflected both the weakness and the strength of WRI. The weakness is obvious when you list the countries that sent delegates: Austria, Belgium, Britain, Denmark, Finland, France, West Germany, India, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the U.S.A. A total of about 200 from 20 countries. But none from Latin America or Africa. Except for Devi Prasad and Narayan Desai, none from all of Asia. Except for the two courageous delegates from Israel, none from the Middle East or Northern Africa. (We must note that wrong as Israel is on so many questions, dissent *can* be expressed in an organized way in Israel—not without risk, and not easily—something which is not possible in the Arab states.)

The weakness reflects the Northern-European origins of the world pacifist movement—the Gandhian experience and example remains a kind of exception, not fully absorbed by traditional pacifists, not widely followed in the Third World. The lack of support from the Third World also reflects the problem of building independent nonviolent movements in developing countries, which tend to have one-party

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The American delegation to the War Resisters International Triennial conference. Photo by David McReynolds.

David McReynolds is a member of the WRL national staff.

SSD II Analysis *continued from page 3*

armed, and thereby deprived of *your* means of defense/security, or that you disarm somebody else depriving *them* of their defense/security. Voluntary disarmament is new and its implications are certainly not accepted by most governments, or indeed by large sectors of the peace movement. While the main blame lies with the USA and USSR, no state was offering to disarm or even to reduce their arms. They were pressing for disarmament by other countries, which means not only do we not get nuclear disarmament, but we don't get even any discussion of conventional weapons disarmament.

SSD II was used to score points, and the US delegation was the worst in this respect. They raised the question of chemical weapons in Afghanistan, Laos and Kampuchea at every opportune and inopportune moment, and claimed that their allegations were proven fact, which to date they are not. The USSR operates differently and so one gets the same speech over and over, both from individual states, and in turns from the socialist bloc.

For me the ultimate insult was picking up a copy of the final speech at the closing session made by the US, only to find on the cover: "Statement by the Honorable Edwin Feulner, Jr. President, The Heritage Foundation. United States Representative to SSD II." The Heritage Foundation made one of the NGO speeches in the section given to peace and disarmament research institutes. Hardly *non*-governmental!

June 12 impressed all the governmental delegations! Some delegates took part, as did some UN staff. We thought we had some big demonstrations in Europe, but this was quite different, and I am very glad that I was there to take part. In the 10 days *before* June 12 a lot of activities by NGOs took place. I would guess that every participant learned new things, made new friends, and had their horizons widened. But I have a feeling that more people should have been in evidence at the UN and the various UN missions more of the time. The lobbying during the *last* two weeks of SSD II inside the UN became more effective, especially as people tended to concentrate on pushing for an effective World Disarmament Campaign and for a nuclear freeze.

The NGOs working at the UN put out a statement when the SSD was finishing which commenced "The obvious failure of this session has caused us such deep concern that it has been difficult to find words to properly express our sense of outrage." It went on to say what we had hoped for, gave some of the reasons for failure, called for the following to be agreed urgently.

1. A freeze to halt the manufacture testing and deployment of nuclear weapons and the production of fissionable materials for military use, as a preliminary to a substantial reduction in nuclear weapons.
2. A Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.
3. A global treaty on no first use of nuclear weapons.
4. A treaty banning the production, deployment and use of chemical weapons.
5. The reduction of conventional arms expenditure.
6. The endorsement and implementation of the recommendations of the UN Expert Report on Disarmament and Development.

The document pledged support for the ideals of the UN and for those working for disarmament within its system and ended "We therefore leave this session with the firm determination to do everything we can to educate our people and our governments in the overriding need for an end to armed conflict."

I signed the statement, and will do what ever I can to realize our demands. I hope very much that you too will join in.

International Peace Petitions Delivered

On June 9 a team of four Americans delivered tens of thousands of names to the US and Soviet United Nations Missions. The names were on the International Peace Petitions. In addition, Randy Kehler had brought notarized statements to verify that tens of thousands of names had been signed to Freeze petitions and turned in to members of Congress. At both the US and Soviet Missions the team met with officials for discussions of the arms policies of the the two major powers. The International Petitions had been widely circulated by WRL, Mobilization for Survival, and many local peace groups. The deliverers, shown standing outside the Soviet Mission to the United Nations were (from left to right): Sid Lens, Rev. Jan Orr-Harter, David McReynolds (in rear) and Randy Kehler.

WRL Regional & Local Offices

WRL National Office, 339 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012 (212-228-0450)
WRL/Southeast, 604 West Chapel Hill St., Durham, NC 27701 (919-682-6374)
WRL/West, 85 Carl St., San Francisco, CA 94117 (415-731-1220)

ALABAMA
Birmingham WRL, 567-B Tyler Loop Rd., Pinson, AL 35126 (205-681-7034)
Mobile WRL, P.O. Box 6414, Mobile, AL 36606 (205-471-6008)
CALIFORNIA
Inland Empire WRL, 1336 North Wall Ave., San Bernardino, CA 92404 (714-889-3170)
Santa Barbara WRL, 7432 San Bergamo, Santa Barbara, CA 93117 (805-685-3404).
Southern California WRL, P.O. Box 928, Arleta, CA 91331 (213-469-4207)
COLORADO
Foothills WRL, 3024 Ross Dr. #A-4, Ft. Collins, CO 80521 (303-482-9641)
CONNECTICUT
Norwich WRL, P.O. Box 1093, Norwich, CT 06360 (203-889-5337)
FLORIDA
Central Florida WRL, P.O. Box 6208, Orlando, FL 32853 (305-896-0703)
GEORGIA
Atlanta WRL, 1225 Cameron Court N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306 (404-378-3237)
HAWAII
Hawaii WRL/catholic Action, 1918 University Ave., Honolulu, HI 96822 (808-949-1210)
IDAHO
Pocatello WRL, 603 South 10th St., Pocatello, ID 83201 (208-233-4541)
ILLINOIS
Oak Park WRL, 645 North Taylor, Oak Park, IL 60302 (312-386-0192)
INDIANA
Evansville WRL, c/o Clark Field, 420 S.E. 2nd St., #B, Evansville, IN 47713 (812-428-7996)
Muncie/Ball State WRL, P.O. Box 401, Student Center, Muncie, IN 47306
Citizens for Peace & Social Justice/WRL, 1312 W. Washington Blvd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46804 (219-426-0165; 489-3561)
MICHIGAN
Detroit WRL, 1542 W. Alexandrine, Detroit, MI 48208 (313-833-3197)
MISSOURI
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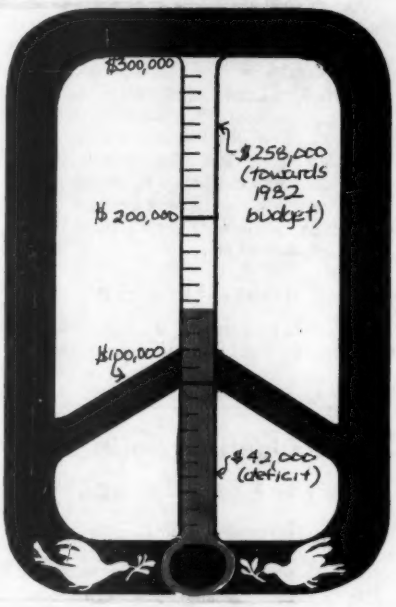
Ozarks Area WRL, 626 E. Normal, Springfield, MO 65807 (417-864-4078)
St. Louis WRL, 962 Warder, St. Louis, MO 63130 (314-726-4662)
NEW JERSEY
Monmouth County WRL, P.O. Box 131, Fair Haven, NJ 07701 (201-747-0566; 842-6539)
New Brunswick WRL, P.O. Box 1895, New Brunswick, NJ 08903 (201-846-5843)
NEW MEXICO
Albuquerque WRL, 5021 Guadalupe Tr. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107 (505-344-1140)
NEW YORK
New York City WRL, 339 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012
Rochester WRL, 713 Monroe Ave., Rochester, NY 14607 (716-244-7191)
NORTH CAROLINA
Triangle Area WRL, 604 W. Chapel Hill St., Durham, NC 27701 (919-682-6374; 489-0520)
PENNSYLVANIA
Philadelphia WRL/WTR, 2208 South St., Philadelphia, PA 19146 (215-545-4626)
Pittsburgh WRL, 5406 Bartlett St., Pittsburgh, PA 15217 (412-422-0377)
TEXAS
Dallas WRL, 2701 Woodmere, Dallas, TX 75233 (214-337-5885)
VERMONT
Lamoille Peace Coalition/WRL, P.O. Box 43, Johnson, VT 05656 (802-635-2618)
WEST VIRGINIA
Morgantown WRL, P.O. Box 744, Morgantown, WV 26505 (304-292-9678)
WISCONSIN
LaCrosse Area WRL, 614 So. 16th St., LaCrosse, WI 54601 (608-782-2136)

WRL Volunteers

The following volunteers came in on a regular basis or spent a large segment of time helping the WRL national office operate more smoothly in June and July:

Ashley King
Virginia Eggleston
Tom Grabell
Bette Burgin

PEACE-OMETER



As of the end of July the War Resisters League has raised $146,000 towards our goal of $300,000. We are running behind a rate necessary to wipe out our debt by the end of the year. This is not because WRL members are not contributing generously—you are—but because of increased costs and alot of extra expenditures on disarmament activities, such as the international activists' conference, the June 12 rally, and particularly the June 14 civil disobedience.

Please help us reach our goal this year, so we can start next year debt free. To all who have contributed so far, thank you and we hope all of our members will give these financial needs a thoughtful response in the coming months.

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nated by Friends of the Earth and others. Very early Hiroshima Day morning 150 people painted shadows of nuclear victims in five key locations. The shadows symbolized victims of a nuclear bombing. Seven of the stencilers were arrested and charged with malicious mischief.

On August 7 about 500 protesters marched from Greenwich Village through the lower east side of Manhattan to a rally in Chinatown. One of the themes of the march and rally was the link between the economic deterioration of society and increased military spending.

The Pentagon

The Jonah House organized a series of protest actions in Washington, DC. On August 6, 25 people participated in a die-in at the Pentagon. Two were arrested for throwing ashes over "the dead."

August 8 at the Air and Space Museum two people threw blood on a Minuteman III missile and one person bloodied a cruise missile display, while 20 did a die-in and two banners were hung. There were no arrests.

Finally, on August 9, nine people were able to lock four of the five doors at the River Entrance of the Pentagon. The remaining open door was blockaded by eleven people and four others threw blood on some Pentagon columns. Thirteen of the forty participants were arrested.

Omaha—Offut AFB

Fifty demonstrators were arrested on August 9 for blocking traffic into Offut AFB, headquarters of the Strategic Air Command. This civil disobedience was organized by the Des Moines Midwest Life Community and the Catholic Worker. The blockade was preceeded by an August 6 ecumenical service and a candlelight procession, and an August 8 peace caravan to Offut.

Atlanta Fallout Shelters

At 11:02 a.m. on August 9 (the time Nagasaki was bombed) four affinity groups (about 25 people) entered three Atlanta fallout shelters to stay until their demands were met or until arrested. Their basic demands were that the city and county refuse to participate in the Federal civil defense program, and follow the Cambridge City Council plan by distributing flyers in opposition to civil defense. The occupations were ended without arrest several hours later when Atlanta and Fulton County officials agreed to consider the demands. The next day the civil defense signs on these shelters were removed. This action was organized by the local nuclear freeze group (spearheaded by Clergy and Laity Concerned).

Bangor Trident Base

Anticipating the entry of the first Trident submarine, the USS Ohio, into Puget Sound (near Seattle), a rally was held on August 8 to commemorate Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and support the Peace Blockade. At least 50 people are planning to violate the security zone around the submarine with a flotilla of small boats. The blockade is sponsored by the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action.

Other

WRL/West participated in several Bay Area activities, including a "Hands Around the Lake" event in which 4000 people held hands around Lake Merritt in Oakland on August 8. WRL/West also sent Helen Michalowski to Japan to represent them at conferences and Hiroshima/Nagasaki commemorative events. The WRL/Southeast office, many of the WRL local groups, and WRL members participated in or organized other events that we cannot (for lack of space and time) recount here.

Nominations Solicited for Executive and National Committees

WRL members may nominate candidates for the Executive and National Committees.

There will be 5 openings for the Executive Committee and 6 for the National Committee. Only persons in the New York City area should be nominated for the EC since they must be able to attend monthly meetings in this area. Members outside the New York City area may be nominated for the NC which meets twice a year. The person you nominate for the NC should come from your own area: West, Midwest, South or East.

Though any WRL member may submit a nomination, nominations by less than five members are subject to the approval of the National Committee as a prerequisite on the ballot. Please submit nominations to the National Office by the November 12 deadline.

WRL NEWS

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WRL is the U.S. branch of the War Resisters' International, a pacifist organization with affiliates in 18 countries.

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political structures and are suspicious of autonomous groups with foreign links. It reflects the serious problem at an economic level of getting delegates even from countries where we have solid contacts—Thailand, Sri Lanka, and Latin America. Finally, it reflects the failure of the nonviolent movement of the developed nations to demonstrate the relevance of nonviolence to the liberation struggles.

There was another lack, which I had not thought about until I began this report. We did not have observers from the Soviet-oriented peace committees in Eastern Europe, nor from the Socialist and Communist and Independent Left parties in Europe, nor from the religious groups that should be close to us, such as Pax Christi (the IFoR did send a staff member—Joe Peacock—who was present for the full conference). I know part of this was because the staff was overworked. But I think we also do not value our work highly enough, do not take ourselves as seriously as we should. We *say* nonviolence is the key to survival—but sometimes we act as if we didn't really expect others to take that seriously.

The strong points were many. The good spirit of the delegates, the high level of discussion, the strong document adopted at the close. The delegates were, for the most part, young. This is not an aging movement of veteran fighters for peace who are barely holding things together—it is a young movement, with much to learn and minds fresh enough to make the learning possible. These are women and men of courage—the "militants" who make possible a true movement. (I do not mean to say there are not also older men and women, no less committed, taking full part and helping provide balance and insights.)

And finally money. If money is the weak point, if the international borders on disaster, if the deficits mount, if the staff is too small for the job—the good news is that Tony Smythe, who had been co-secretary of WRI some years back, and is an exceptionally talented and decent member in the "Radical Establishment" of England, has taken on the post of Treasurer—and if Tony has taken that on, he is going to work at it, *and make us work at it.*

I've been around long enough to know that in changing a society, "the financial question is also a political question"—a movement that is not properly funded cannot carry out ideas. I close with this note, because for both the international and the national sections the future will require more funds, not less; more staff, not fewer. I think this Triennial made that commitment.